

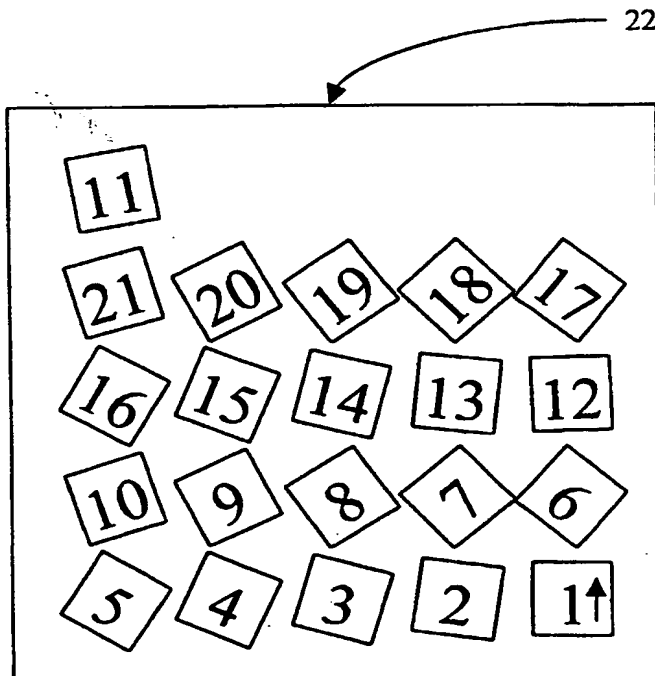
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(54) Title: **MAGNETIC TAGS**

(57) Abstract: A magnetic data tag comprises a plurality of magnetic elements in which data is stored by reference to a combination of characteristics selected from a large number of possible characteristics. One characteristic such as orientation or location is used to distinguish elements from one another and another characteristic such as coercivity or amplitude response is used to store multiple bits of data per element. Further characteristics are used to store additional data.

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